

In the Claims:

Amend claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 15 and 25, as follows. [Format corresponding to 37 CFR §1.121(c)(i), ie. "without markings".]

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Sub E1  
C1  
1(Amended). A method of reducing absorption into a laminated material used for the manufacture of containers having flexible walls and which in use has an intended inner surface and a vapor impermeable non-polyolefin core barrier layer, said method comprising arranging for at least one further layer, formed from a non-polar thermoplastic polyolefin resin filled with a platelet filler comprising talc, to be positioned inwardly of the barrier layer.

2 (Amended). A method according to claim 1, wherein the platelet filler comprises a high purity talc, and wherein the further layer has a CIE whiteness index of at least 40.

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Sub E2  
C2  
6(Amended). A laminated material for the manufacture of a container having flexible walls and which, in use, has a surface intended to be external of the container and a surface intended to be internal of the container, the laminated material comprising an intermediate non-polyolefin barrier layer of thermoplastic material having, on its inner side, at least one further layer comprising a non-polar thermoplastic polyolefin resin filled with a platelet filler comprising talc.

Sub F3  
7(Amended). A laminated material according to claim 6, wherein the platelet filler comprises high purity talc, and wherein the further layer has a CIE whiteness index of at least 40.

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C3  
Sub  
93

15(Amended). A container having flexible walls formed from a laminated material having a core barrier layer of a non-polyolefin thermoplastic material with at least one further layer arranged internally of the barrier layer, said one further layer comprising a non-polar thermoplastic polyolefin resin filled with platelets of talc having an aspect ratio of at least 5 and an average aspect ratio of from 16 to 30, and wherein the one further layer has a CIE whiteness of at least 40.

C4

25(Amended). A laminated material according to claim 24, wherein said barrier layer has a thickness of from 5 microns to 15 microns.

[ Add new claims 27-35, as follows. ]

27(New). A method according to claim 1, wherein said core barrier layer has a thickness of from 5 to 25 microns.

C5

28(New). A method according to claim 27, wherein said core barrier layer has a thickness of from 5 to 15 microns.

29(New). A method according to claim 1, wherein said core barrier layer is selected from the group consisting of ethylene vinyl alcohol, polyamides, polyacrylonitrile, aliphatic polyketones and aluminium foil.

30(New). A method according to claim 1, wherein said further layer has a thickness of from 5 to 150 microns.

31(New). A method according to 30, wherein said further layer has a thickness of from 10 to 70 microns.

32(New). A method according to claim 2, wherein the platelets of talc have an aspect ratio of at least 5 and an average aspect ratio of from 16 to 30, and wherein said further layer has a CIE whiteness of at least 45.

33(New). A laminated material according to claim 18, wherein said further layer has a thickness of from 10 to 70 microns.

34(New). A laminated material according to claim 6, wherein said intermediate barrier layer is selected from the group consisting of ethylene vinyl alcohol and amorphous polyamide material.

35(New). A laminated material according to claim 7, wherein the platelets of talc have an aspect ratio of at least 5 and an average aspect ratio of from 16 to 30, and wherein said further layer has a CIE whiteness of at least 45.